

Connect



OUR NEWEST MEMBER!

At the state conference, we all voted on whether we thought advisor **Elizabeth Bonilla** would have a boy or a girl. "Boy" won. Well, he's here! Braden made the scene at 8:23pm, April 17, weighing in at 7lbs. 4ozs. and just a quarter inch shy of 20 inches tall. In the words of Mrs. Bonilla, "He is perfect!" and "He is such a good baby!" Welcome Braden and congratulations Mrs. Bonilla. Oh, Mr. Bonilla, too!

In addition to advising SADD and JoCo Teen Drivers, Mrs. Bonilla teaches chemistry at West Johnston High School in Benson.



SAFE PROM CAMPAIGN CONTINUES



Some schools have already had their proms, and we applaud their SADD chapters for the excellent prevention events they organized. If your school has not held its prom, great project ideas are in the April issue of *Connect*. Here are some more tips from Safe and Sober Prom Night to make sure this special night is one that will always remain a happy memory.

Be prepared to deal with the pressures that come with the territory.

Not everyone will be as smart as you. There will be some who will decide to drink or use drugs and try to encourage you to do the same. Don't be caught off guard and say "yes" to something you'll regret. Be ready to say "No" or walk away. Humor often works in these situations, and once they realize you're not going to join them, they'll leave you alone.

Plan something fun and stick to the plan.

Prom is all about the memories. If you and your friends plan something exciting, off-the-wall and memorable, no one will want to leave to drink or use drugs. You can go for coffee, grab a late night bite or even do something silly like karaoke. By making firm plans, everyone will have a say and you'll look forward to just being together. This will be worth far more than one night of bad choices.

Be a leader for others to see.

Just like peer pressure works to get others to drink or use drugs, it can also work in a positive way. If you're having a blast and are the life of the party AND you're staying sober, others will take notice. Show them it's possible and actually better to have a good time without being intoxicated. You'll have a great time with no regrets!

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Ideas? Questions? Concerns?

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www.ncyaio.com

Perhaps your chapter can get ideas from the prom safety projects sponsored by Cannon School in Concord and Manteo High School in Manteo.



Cannon School held a Prom Promise Kick-Off Event that began two weeks before the prom. Advisor **Anne Hoffman** reports that this is both a Safe Prom and fundraising event for the chapter. During the first week while promoting good decisions during the prom, the SADD Club

also promoted that the Kona Ice truck would visit the school during the lunch period to kick off Prom Promise Week.

Cannon is a JrK-12 school with a Junior Kindergarten/Senior Buddy program. The SADD Club got the entire school involved. They filmed several of the JK students saying things like, "Have a safe & fun prom!" The film was shown at the prom meeting where students were invited to participate in the Kona Ice Event, and the school staff reviewed prom logistics and expectations of behavior.



Having a blast at the Kona Ice truck



Making the pledge

SADD officers went to speak to 7th and 8th graders during a morning advisory assembly about SADD and the SADD mission of empowering youth to make positive decisions about important issues in their lives. They invited the students to participate in the Kona Ice Event during their lunch period and to join the SADD Club in high school.

The Kona Ice truck set up in "The Quad," a gathering place and social area for students. Students purchase shaved ice for \$3, \$4 or \$5 and add their own flavors from the "Flavor Wave." The truck played island music, and students attending prom who signed the Prom Promise Pledge got a coupon for 50 cents off. The SADD Club gets to keep 20% of the total sales. They raised over \$200!



Look at all these signatures!

Applause to Cannon for an awesome program, and applause to Head of School **Matt Gossage** for his support of Cannon SADD. Go Cougars!



Manteo High School SADD sponsored activities throughout the week of April 21-25 leading up to the prom on Saturday night.



On Monday, the club conducted the "Quick Click Buckle Challenge" game during lunch periods. The fastest team of four students to complete the seat belt obstacle course won a free pizza for lunch.

Tuesday was career day. Local business representatives came to the school during lunch to have information available for students seeking summer employment. It was also "Dress In A Career Outfit Day" for spirit points.

Wednesday the club had the Motivational Media Assemblies video "Live Out Loud" assembly for the entire student body. Those of you who attended the state conference last November may remember this exciting, powerful presentation.

Thursday was "Smash Out Drunk Driving Day." For a small fee, students could whack a picture of their favorite teacher that was attached to a wrecked car. (Gives new meaning to the word "favorite", huh?) The money raised by the club was donated to the After Prom Party.

Friday was the annual Mock Car Crash assembly for juniors and seniors and was conducted in front of the school. This graphic presentation gave students a realistic portrayal of the tragic results of drinking and driving. Throughout the week, SADD club members also staffed a table during lunch periods where they signed up students for the After Prom Party and had students sign a Safe & Sober Prom Pledge.

Manteo is one of our most active chapters. We thank Advisor **Mark McKay** and the members of Manteo SADD for the excellent work they do. Thanks also to Principal **John Luciano** for his support of Manteo SADD and the NC SADD program. Go 'Skins!

SADD Club Prom Week

Monday: Quick Click Buckle Challenge



Winning team gets a pizza lunch!

Tuesday: Career Day

Dress in career outfit for Spirit Points



Wednesday: Big Video in the Gym!

Thursday: Smash Out Drunk Driving

Whack a wrecked car for .25 a hit!



Friday: Mock Car Crash!!!



Week long sign up for After-Prom & sign the Safe/Sober Prom Pledge!



(Top) Prom Week Flyer (Bottom) SADD club members Kaitlyn Benson, Shelby Foster, Gracie Deichler, Megan Whitehurst, Advisor Mark McKay, Justin Johnson and Kelsey Wright pose with members of the Dare County Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services, Twiford's Funeral Home and the Grim Reaper following the mock crash event.



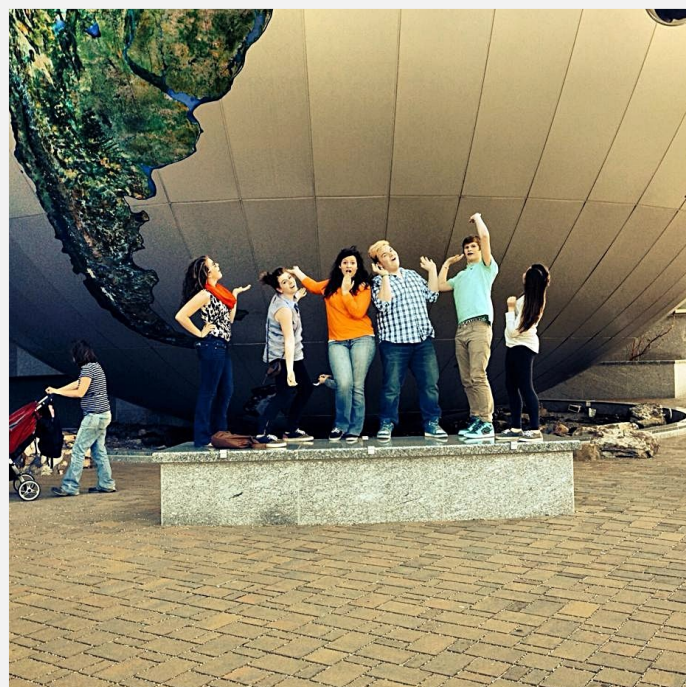
WELCOME UWHARRIE!

Uwharrie Charter Academy (UCA) in Asheboro is the new home to 200 freshmen and sophomores. The school was founded in 2013. With the support of administrators and volunteers, UCA students established a SADD chapter called "L!EADD"



(Longevity! Eagles Against Destructive Decisions). The chapter has grown to 12 members and two advisors since November 2013. Advisor **Courtney Chavis**, who is also the Community Educator for the Randolph County Family Crisis Center, shared that the members believe that being involved with SADD will help their school address many of the issues that are common to all high schools.

"Our motto is 'No Regrets.' We meet weekly or bi weekly to grow as a team and get a better understanding of solutions to issues such as texting and driving, underage drinking, teen dating violence and more. Together,



L!EADD under the globe at the Nature Research Center in Raleigh

we plan events to hopefully encourage others to live our motto in a way that promotes school pride, good decisions and positive actions. Participating in SADD Shines and the Youth Health Summit at North Carolina State University are two highlights thus far for our new and growing chapter," said Ms. Chavis.

Jordan Uhl, club president, also had this to share: "As many people say, 'you don't need a title to be a leader.' I totally believe this is true, anyone can be a leader.

"Being a leader is something inside you; certain people are born to be leaders and some are not. You don't need a title to tell yourself you're a leader; you just need to be yourself. This is why I joined SADD, or as our school calls it, L!EADD. My goal in L!EADD is to help fellow students to accept themselves and to find their inner leader. We all lead someone in some way and some form. By the time I am graduated from my school, I hope I would have inspired kids to be their own 'Leader-Without-A-Title'."



The students made lanterns for SADD Shines Day.

Many, many thanks to Ms. Chavis and Jordan Uhl for sharing with us. We are overjoyed to have them in the SADD family. The way they've started out, the L!EADD chapter is certain to be successful. Thanks also to Principal **Heather Soja** for her support of SADD.

Go Eagles!



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Let us know about the great projects your chapter is doing out there. We want to know how you're improving your schools and communities and helping your fellow students make better decisions. There are great chapters doing some really great things, but we can't know about them if we are not informed. The purpose of the **Connect** newsletter is to keep us all *connected*. Why not assign someone in your chapter the important responsibility of reporting your activities to the state coordinator? Be sure to send pictures! All contact information is under the table of contents on page 1.



YOUR REGISTRATIONS ARE PAYING OFF

As our chapters continue to register and update their registrations, we are continuing to see chapters that are not listed in our chapter directory, so it is very important that you keep registering your chapters. If you have a SADD chapter and you are getting the newsletter for the first time, it's because we found out you were there.

It doesn't matter that we are near the end of the year, it is still just as important that you update your registration. When the 2014-15 term begins, if you register at the beginning of the year, you are done unless you have changes to make such as email addresses or new advisors. A link to the registration form is on the SADD national home page at www.sadd.org directly above the "Partnerships" section in the lower left. It says "Update Registration." It's really, really easy!



HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE MAY CALENDAR?

In addition to Safe Prom, our May calendar has a number of great projects and activities for the month. You can choose the ones of most importance to your school or community. If you've already had your prom, you're probably already thinking about your graduation events. If you need speakers for your programs or help with your activities be sure to contact your state coordinator.

Have a marvelous May!

